

AMENDMENT TO H.R. __

OFFERED BY MR. POE OF TEXAS

(Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2012)

At the end of title IV, add the following:

1 **SEC. 4xx. GUIDELINES FOR UNITED STATES FOREIGN AS-**
2 **SISTANCE PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of this section is to
4 evaluate the performance of United States foreign assist-
5 ance programs and their contribution to policy, strategies,
6 projects, program goals, and priorities undertaken by the
7 Federal Government, to foster and promote innovative
8 programs to improve the effectiveness of such programs,
9 and to coordinate the monitoring and evaluation processes
10 of Federal departments and agencies that administer such
11 programs.

12 (b) **ESTABLISHMENT OF GUIDELINES.**—The Presi-
13 dent, in consultation with the Administrator of the United
14 States Agency for International Development, the head of
15 the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and the Secretary
16 of Defense, shall establish guidelines regarding the estab-
17 lishment of measurable goals, performance metrics, and
18 monitoring and evaluation plans that can be applied on
19 a uniform basis to United States foreign assistance pro-

Insert:
"the Secretary
of State,"

1 grams, country assistance plans, and international and
2 multilateral assistance programs receiving financial assist-
3 ance from the United States. Such guidelines shall be es-
4 tablished according to best practices of monitoring and
5 evaluation studies and analyses.

6 (c) OBJECTIVES OF GUIDELINES.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Such guidelines shall provide
8 direction to Federal departments and agencies that
9 administer United States foreign assistance pro-
10 grams on how to develop the complete range of ac-
11 tivities relating to the monitoring of resources, the
12 evaluation of projects, the evaluation of program im-
13 pacts, and analysis that is necessary for the identi-
14 fication of findings, generalizations that can be de-
15 rived from those findings, and their applicability to
16 proposed project and program design.

17 (2) OBJECTIVES.—Specifically, the guidelines
18 shall provide direction on how to achieve the fol-
19 lowing objectives for monitoring and evaluation pro-
20 grams:

21 (A) Building measurable goals, perform-
22 ance metrics and monitoring and evaluation
23 into program design at the outset, including the
24 provision of sufficient program resources to
25 conduct monitoring and evaluation.

1 (B) Disseminating guidelines for the devel-
2 opment and implementation of monitoring and
3 evaluation programs to all personnel, especially
4 in the field, who are responsible for the design,
5 implementation and management of foreign as-
6 sistance programs.

7 (C) Developing a clearinghouse capacity
8 for the dissemination of knowledge and lessons
9 learned to United States development profes-
10 sionals, implementing partners, the inter-
11 national aid community, and aid recipient gov-
12 ernments, and as a repository of knowledge on
13 lessons learned.

14 (D) Distributing monitoring and evaluation
15 reports internally and making this material
16 available online to the public. Furthermore, pro-
17 viding a summary including a description of
18 methods, key findings and recommendations to
19 the public on-line in a fully searchable form
20 within 90 days after the completion of the eval-
21 uation. Principled exceptions will be made in
22 cases of classified or proprietary material.

23 (E) Establishing annual monitoring and
24 evaluation agendas and objectives that are re-
25 sponsive to policy and programmatic priorities.

1 (F) Applying rigorous monitoring and eval-
2 uation methodologies, choosing from among a
3 wide variety of qualitative and quantitative
4 methods common in the field of social scientific
5 inquiry.

6 (G) Partnering with the academic commu-
7 nity, implementing partners, and national and
8 international institutions that have expertise in
9 monitoring and evaluation and analysis when
10 such partnerships will provide needed expertise
11 or will significantly improve the evaluation and
12 analysis.

13 (H) Developing and implementing a train-
14 ing plan for aid personnel on the proper con-
15 duct of monitoring and evaluation programs.

16 (d) ROLE OF OTHER FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND
17 AGENCIES.—The head of each Federal department and
18 agency that administers United States foreign assistance
19 programs shall implement such guidelines.

20 (e) EVALUATION DEFINED.—In this section, the
21 term “evaluation” means, with respect to a United States
22 foreign assistance program, the systematic collection and
23 analysis of information about the characteristics and out-
24 comes of the program and projects under the program as

1 a basis for judgments, to improve effectiveness, and to in-
2 form decisions about current and future programming.

3 **SEC. ____ . REPORT.**

4 Not later than one year after the date of the enact-
5 ment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to Con-
6 gress a report that contains a detailed description of the
7 guidelines that have been developed on measurable goals,
8 performance metrics, and monitoring and evaluation plans
9 for United States foreign assistance programs established
10 under section ____.

